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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/748,994	12/27/2000	Douglas B. Quine	F-240	6431
919	7590	04/28/2004	EXAMINER	
PITNEY BOWES INC. 35 WATerview DRIVE P.O. BOX 3000 MSC 26-22 SHELTON, CT 06484-8000			GIBBS, HEATHER D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2622	
DATE MAILED: 04/28/2004				

8

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/748,994	QUINE, DOUGLAS B.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Heather D Gibbs	2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 March 2004.  
 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 12/27/2000 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

*Response to Amendment*

1. The amendment filed on 03/22/2004 has been entered and made of record. Claims 8-9 have been cancelled. Claims 1-7 are pending.

*Response to Arguments*

2. Applicant's arguments filed have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant has amended Claim 1 so as to be explicitly clear that the communication device "is between a first facsimile communication device and a second facsimile communication device". A facsimile is defined by Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary (10<sup>th</sup> ed) as being a system of transmitting and reproducing graphic matter by means of signals sent over telephone lines. Upon further consideration, the Examiner finds Kara teaches wherein an electronic document is transferred, transmitted, reproduced, remote certified, and encrypted all through digital telecommunications or through a digital network system. Hence the rejection still stands. See Col 1 Lines 49-67;Col 4 Lines 25-64; Col 5 Lines 45-63.

*Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kara (US 5,982,506).

Art Unit: 2622

5. Regarding claim 1, Kara teaches of a method of authenticating information communicated between a first facsimile communication device and a second facsimile communication device via a communication network, comprising the steps of:

- a. receiving input data and generating facsimile information in a first format by said first communication device from said input data (Col 4 Lines 28-32);
- b. processing said input data to compute an encrypted checksum (Col 4 Lines 32-37);
- c. convolving said facsimile information with said encrypted checksum data to produce convolved data (Col 4 Lines 37-43);
- d. decrypting at said second communication device, said encrypted checksum (Col 4 Lines 57-64);
- e. computing a checksum of said input data received at said second communication device (Col 4 Lines 65-67; Col 5 Lines 1-10); and
- f. alerting a recipient at said second communication device in the event of a mismatch between said checksum data computed in step (e) and said decrypted checksum data in step (d) (Col 5 Lines 11-22).

Considering claims 2-3, Kara teaches wherein said first communication device is digital facsimile apparatus (Col 1 Lines 5-20; electronic transfer system).

Regarding claim 4, Kara teaches wherein said first communication system is a computer system comprising communication means with communication software installed on said computer system (Col 5 Lines 29-44).

Regarding claim 5, Kara teaches wherein a database system is communicatively coupled to said second communication device (Col 6 Lines 35-44).

Art Unit: 2622

Considering claim 6, Kara teaches wherein said second communication system is a computer system comprising communication means with communication software installed in said computer system (Col 6 Lines 12-23).

Regarding claim 7, Kara teaches the step of configuring an email system for receiving and displaying an alert message to said recipient along with said received input data (Col 5 Lines 11-28).

*Conclusion*

6. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Heather D Gibbs whose telephone number is 703-306-4152. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8AM-4PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on 703-305-4712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2622

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

*Heather D Gibbs*  
Heather D Gibbs  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2622

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